

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request entry of this preliminary amendment prior to examination of the application. Claims 1, 11, 20, 21, 29, 34 and 40 have been amended. Claims 1 – 44 are presented for examination. No new matter has been added.

The present amendments were discussed during an interview with Examiner Boris M. Pesin conducted on January 11, 2007. Applicants thank the Examiner for agreeing to discuss this case. During the interview, the Examiner suggested the Applicants file the instant Supplemental Reply, which incorporates potential claim amendments discussed during the interview. As such, the Reply is clearly limited to adoption of the Examiner's suggestions.

If any issues remain which would prevent issuance of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned prior to issuing a subsequent action. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional amount required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-2112.

Respectfully submitted,

/rhr/ Robert H. Reckers

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